

## **Bishop Charles H. Phillips, D.D.**

**Colored M. E. Church**

**Residence: Nashville, Tenn.**

BISHOP PHILLIPS presides over the Tennessee, Texas, East Texas, and West Texas conferences, and his jurisdiction extends over portions of New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

He was born in Milledgeville, Ga., January 17, 1858. As a boy, he worked on his father's farm in summer and attended school during the winters. He entered Atlanta University in 1874, and four years later became a student at Walden University, Nashville, Tenn. He graduated from Walden in 1880 with the degree of A.B. He entered Meharry Medical College at the close of his work at Walden, and graduated with the degree of M.D. in 1882.

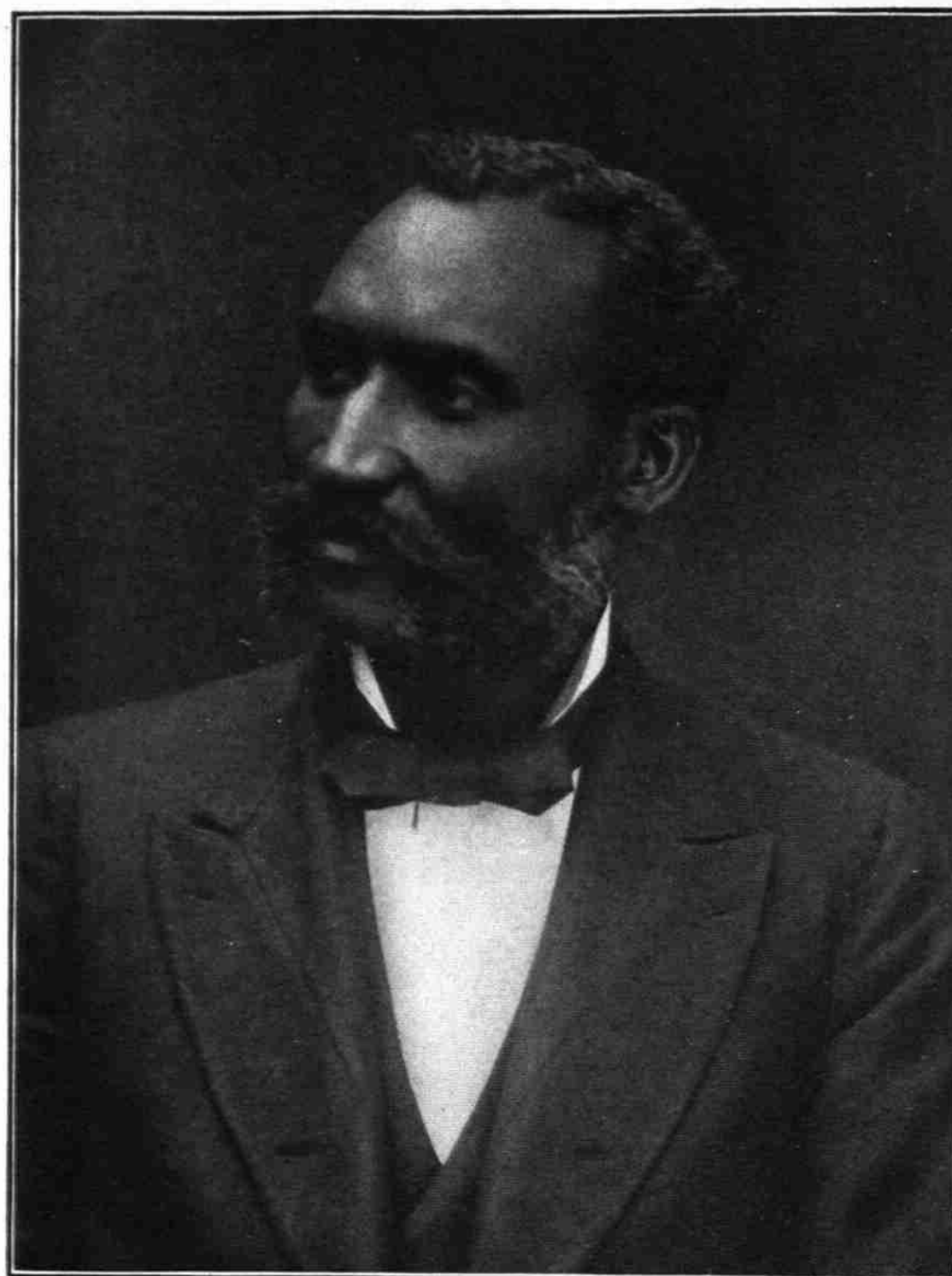
He was converted in 1874. He joined the Tennessee Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in 1879; was president of Lane College, 1884-85; pastor in Memphis, Washington, and Louisville, 1886-92; presiding elder in Kentucky, 1893; editor *Christian Index*, the official organ of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, 1898-1902, and elected bishop 1902.

He has been the recipient of many additional honors. He was fraternal delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, 1886; delegate from Washington to the World's First Sunday-School Convention, London, 1889; delegate to the Second Ecumenical Conference, Washington, 1891, and the third, London, 1901; fraternal delegate to the Methodist Episcopal General Conference, 1896; and one of the chief participants in the centennial of the "Mother Zion" Church in New York, in 1896.

As a preacher, financier, college president, and a trusted leader among his people, Bishop Phillips has an enviable record. In 1907, with three Texas conferences participating, he raised \$11,514, — said to be the largest amount ever raised under similar conditions by a Negro for education. Bishop Phillips has accomplished so much in the cause of the development of Texas College, at Tyler, Tex., that the trustees in recognition of his work changed the name of the school to Phillips University.

## **Greatest Needs of the Negro Race**

I HAVE been asked to give my opinion on what I regard as the greatest need for the further development of the Negro along moral, religious, intellectual, and industrial lines, and how these are related to our youth and in what order.



BISHOP CHARLES H. PHILLIPS, D.D.

In the study of this question I had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that the religious training of the Negro is of supreme importance, and in its relation to other forces and agencies must occupy first place in his continued development.

A serious, sincere, and deeply reverent spirit will obtain from the culture of his religious nature, and his moral awakening will naturally follow. He will act in accordance with the laws of right and wrong, and put into practical use these laws as they relate to the paying of debts, keeping one's word, honoring obligations, and in performing all the general businesses of life.

His moral development is only secondary in importance. His intellectual and industrial advancement has long been considered by many all-sufficient, and must, to a very large degree, play an incalculable part in his continued uplift. He responds to the same elevating agencies that have produced the civilization of other races. And what these agencies have wrought for the whites,

they will have the corresponding effect in producing the same results for the blacks. And now abideth religious, moral, intellectual, and industrial forces in our race development, but the greatest of these is the religious.

I regard a larger number of converted, educated, consecrated leaders as the greatest need for the further development of the Negro along the lines indicated.

We need leaders who possess good judgment, large faith, optimistic spirit, and high moral ideals; leaders whose conception of honor and dishonor, of probity and righteousness, are on the highest plane. The qualities that contribute to the making of successful leaders, be they men or women, are needed in every home, church, Sunday-school, college, or Christian organization throughout the land.

For some time to come, these are to be the most powerful, as well as the most available, forums in which race propaganda are to be manufactured and Christian training crystallized. We want a large number of leaders who have faith in God, in themselves, and in others; leaders who look hopefully to the future.